

**U.S. District Court  
District of Columbia (Washington, DC)  
CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 1:16-cv-00656-DLF**

JUDICIAL WATCH, INC. v. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Assigned to: Judge Dabney L. Friedrich  
Cause: 05:552 Freedom of Information Act

Date Filed: 04/07/2016  
Jury Demand: None  
Nature of Suit: 895 Freedom of Information Act  
Jurisdiction: U.S. Government Defendant

**Plaintiff**

**JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.**

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V.

**Defendant**

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE**  
*The Executive Office*

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*TERMINATED: 04/13/2018*

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*TERMINATED: 07/11/2016*

Date Filed	#	Docket Text
04/07/2016	<u>1</u>	COMPLAINT against U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE ( Filing fee \$ 400 receipt number 0090-4476378) filed by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Civil Cover Sheet, # <u>2</u> Summons US Department of State, # <u>3</u> Summons US Attorney, # <u>4</u> Summons US Attorney General)(Aldrich, Jason) (Entered: 04/07/2016)
04/07/2016	<u>2</u>	LCvR 7.1 CERTIFICATE OF DISCLOSURE of Corporate Affiliations and Financial Interests by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC. (Aldrich, Jason) (Entered: 04/07/2016)
04/07/2016		Case Assigned to Judge Emmet G. Sullivan. (md) (Entered: 04/07/2016)
04/07/2016	<u>3</u>	SUMMONS (3) Issued Electronically as to U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE, U.S. Attorney and U.S. Attorney General (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Notice of Consent) (md) (Entered: 04/07/2016)
04/18/2016	<u>4</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed as to the United States Attorney. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney on 4/13/2016. ( Answer due for ALL FEDERAL DEFENDANTS by 5/13/2016.), RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed on United States Attorney General. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney General 4/13/2016., RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE served on 4/12/2016 (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Declaration of Cristina Rotaru)(Aldrich, Jason) (Entered: 04/18/2016)
04/20/2016	<u>5</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by April Denise Seabrook on behalf of U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE (Seabrook, April) (Entered: 04/20/2016)
05/13/2016	<u>6</u>	ANSWER to Complaint by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE.(Cedrone, Gerard) (Entered: 05/13/2016)
07/08/2016	<u>7</u>	NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTION OF COUNSEL by Arjun Garg on behalf of U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE Substituting for attorney April Denise Seabrook and Gerard Justin Cedrone (Garg, Arjun) (Entered: 07/08/2016)
08/03/2016	<u>8</u>	SCHEDULING ORDER. Signed by Judge Emmet G. Sullivan on August 3, 2016. (lcegs4) (Entered: 08/03/2016)
08/03/2016		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Scheduling Order due by 8/17/2016. (mac) (Entered: 08/03/2016)
08/17/2016	<u>9</u>	PROPOSED BRIEFING SCHEDULE by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Garg, Arjun) (Entered: 08/17/2016)

08/19/2016		MINUTE ORDER. In view of <u>9</u> joint proposed scheduling order, the parties are directed to file a joint status report by no later than October 17, 2016. Signed by Judge Emmet G. Sullivan on 8/19/2016. (lcegs1) (Entered: 08/19/2016)
08/19/2016		Set/Reset Deadlines/Hearings: Joint Status Report due by 10/17/2016. (cdw) (Entered: 08/22/2016)
10/17/2016	<u>10</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Garg, Arjun) (Entered: 10/17/2016)
10/18/2016		MINUTE ORDER. In view of <u>10</u> joint status report, the parties shall file a further joint status report by no later than December 16, 2016. Signed by Judge Emmet G. Sullivan on 10/18/2016. (lcegs1) (Entered: 10/18/2016)
10/18/2016		Set/Reset Deadlines: Status Report due by 12/16/2016 (mac) (Entered: 10/18/2016)
12/16/2016	<u>11</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Garg, Arjun) (Entered: 12/16/2016)
01/05/2017		MINUTE ORDER. In view of <u>11</u> joint proposed scheduling order, the parties are directed to file a joint status report by no later than February 17, 2017. Signed by Judge Emmet G. Sullivan on 1/5/2017. (lcegs1) (Entered: 01/05/2017)
01/05/2017		Set/Reset Deadlines/Hearings: Joint Status Report due by 2/17/2017. (cdw) (Entered: 01/06/2017)
02/17/2017	<u>12</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Garg, Arjun) (Entered: 02/17/2017)
02/17/2017		MINUTE ORDER. In view of <u>12</u> joint status report, the parties are directed to file a joint status report by no later than April 17, 2017 to update the Court on the status of the Department of State's response to the FOIA request. Signed by Judge Emmet G. Sullivan on 2/17/2017. (lcegs1) Modified event title on 2/21/2017 (znmw). (Entered: 02/17/2017)
02/17/2017		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 4/17/2017 (mac) (Entered: 02/17/2017)
04/17/2017	<u>13</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Garg, Arjun) (Entered: 04/17/2017)
04/18/2017		MINUTE ORDER. In view of <u>13</u> joint status report, the parties shall submit a further joint status report by no later than June 16, 2017 to update the Court on the status of the Department of State's response to the FOIA request. Signed by Judge Emmet G. Sullivan on 4/18/2017. (lcegs1) (Entered: 04/18/2017)
04/18/2017		Set/Reset Deadlines/Hearings: Joint Status Report due by 6/16/2017. (cdw) (Entered: 04/19/2017)
06/16/2017	<u>14</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Garg, Arjun) (Entered: 06/16/2017)
06/19/2017		MINUTE ORDER. In view of <u>14</u> the parties' joint status report, the parties shall submit a further joint status report by no later than August 18, 2017 to update the Court on the status of the Department of State's response to the FOIA request. Signed by Judge Emmet G. Sullivan on 06/19/2017. (lcegs3) (Entered: 06/19/2017)
06/19/2017		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 8/18/2017. (mac) (Entered: 06/19/2017)
07/28/2017	<u>15</u>	STANDING ORDER: The parties are directed to read the attached Standing Order Governing Civil Cases Before Judge Emmet G. Sullivan in its entirety upon receipt. The parties are hereby ORDERED to comply with the directives in the attached Standing Order. Signed by Judge Emmet G. Sullivan on 7/28/2017. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Exhibit) (lcegs1) (Entered: 07/28/2017)
08/18/2017	<u>16</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Garg, Arjun) (Entered: 08/18/2017)

09/12/2017		MINUTE ORDER. In view of <u>16</u> joint status report, the parties shall submit a further joint status report by no later than October 13, 2017 to update the Court on the status of the Department of State's response to the FOIA request. Signed by Judge Emmet G. Sullivan on 9/12/2017. (lcegs1) (Entered: 09/12/2017)
09/12/2017		Set/Reset Deadlines/Hearings: Joint Status Report due by 10/13/2017. (zcdw) (Entered: 09/12/2017)
10/13/2017	<u>17</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Garg, Arjun) (Entered: 10/13/2017)
10/16/2017		MINUTE ORDER in view of <u>17</u> joint status report, the parties shall submit a further joint status report by no later than December 15, 2017 to update the Court on the status of the Department of State's response to the FOIA request. Signed by Judge Emmet G. Sullivan on 10/16/2017. (lcegs3) (Entered: 10/16/2017)
10/16/2017		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 12/15/2017. (mac) (Entered: 10/16/2017)
12/04/2017		Case directly reassigned to Judge Dabney L. Friedrich. Judge Emmet G. Sullivan is no longer assigned to the case. (ztnr) (Entered: 12/04/2017)
12/15/2017	<u>18</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Garg, Arjun) (Entered: 12/15/2017)
12/18/2017		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the <u>18</u> Joint Status Report, it hereby is ORDERED that the parties shall submit a joint status report by February 16, 2018 to update the Court about the status of the Department of State's response to the FOIA request. Signed by Judge Dabney L. Friedrich on December 18, 2018. (JK) (Entered: 12/18/2017)
12/18/2017		Set/Reset Deadlines: Status Report due by 2/16/2018. (JK) (Entered: 12/18/2017)
02/16/2018	<u>19</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Garg, Arjun) (Entered: 02/16/2018)
02/22/2018		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the <u>19</u> Joint Status Report, it hereby is ORDERED that the parties shall submit a joint status report by April 13, 2018 to update the Court about the status of the Department of State's response to the FOIA request. Signed by Judge Dabney L. Friedrich on February 22, 2018. (JK) (Entered: 02/22/2018)
04/13/2018	<u>20</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Garg, Arjun) (Entered: 04/13/2018)
04/13/2018	<u>21</u>	NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTION OF COUNSEL by Jean-Michel Voltaire on behalf of U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE Substituting for attorney Arjun Garg (Voltaire, Jean-Michel) (Entered: 04/13/2018)
04/16/2018		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the <u>20</u> Joint Status Report, it hereby is ORDERED that the parties shall submit a joint status report by June 15, 2018 to update the Court about the status of the Department of State's response to the FOIA request. Signed by Judge Dabney L. Friedrich on April 16, 2018. (JK) (Entered: 04/16/2018)
06/15/2018	<u>22</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Voltaire, Jean-Michel) (Entered: 06/15/2018)
06/16/2018		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' <u>22</u> Joint Status Report, it is ORDERED that the parties shall submit another joint status report on or before August 15, 2018. Signed by Judge Dabney L. Friedrich on June 16, 2018. (JK) (Entered: 06/16/2018)
08/15/2018	<u>23</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Voltaire, Jean-Michel) (Entered: 08/15/2018)
08/16/2018		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' <u>23</u> Joint Status Report, it is ORDERED that the parties shall submit another joint status report on or before October 15, 2018. Signed by Judge Dabney L. Friedrich on August 16, 2018. (JK) (Entered: 08/16/2018)

10/15/2018	<u>24</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Voltaire, Jean-Michel) (Entered: 10/15/2018)
10/16/2018		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' <u>24</u> Joint Status Report, it is ORDERED that the parties shall submit another joint status report on or before December 17, 2018. Signed by Judge Dabney L. Friedrich on October 16, 2018. (JK) (Entered: 10/16/2018)
12/17/2018	<u>25</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Voltaire, Jean-Michel) (Entered: 12/17/2018)
12/18/2018		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' <u>25</u> Joint Status Report, it is ORDERED that the parties shall submit another joint status report on or before February 18, 2019. Signed by Judge Dabney L. Friedrich on December 18, 2018. (JK) (Entered: 12/18/2018)
01/08/2019	<u>26</u>	Consent MOTION to Stay by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Voltaire, Jean-Michel) (Entered: 01/08/2019)
01/08/2019		MINUTE ORDER. Within seven calendar days after appropriations are restored to the Department of Justice and Department of State, the parties shall meet and confer and file a joint status report that proposes a schedule for further proceedings. Signed by Judge Dabney L. Friedrich on January 8, 2019. (JK) (Entered: 01/08/2019)
02/01/2019	<u>27</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Voltaire, Jean-Michel) (Entered: 02/01/2019)
02/01/2019		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' <u>27</u> Joint Status Report, it is ORDERED that the parties shall submit another joint status report on or before March 29, 2019. Signed by Judge Dabney L. Friedrich on February 1, 2019. (JK) (Entered: 02/01/2019)
03/29/2019	<u>28</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Voltaire, Jean-Michel) (Entered: 03/29/2019)
03/29/2019		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' <u>28</u> Joint Status Report, it is ORDERED that the parties shall submit another joint status report on or before May 29, 2019. Signed by Judge Dabney L. Friedrich on March 29, 2019. (lcldf3) (Entered: 03/29/2019)
03/29/2019		Set/Reset Deadlines/Hearings: Joint status report due by 5/29/2019. (zcdw) (Entered: 04/01/2019)
04/10/2019	<u>29</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Garrett Joseph Coyle on behalf of U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE (Coyle, Garrett) (Entered: 04/10/2019)
05/29/2019	<u>30</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Coyle, Garrett) (Entered: 05/29/2019)
05/31/2019		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' <u>30</u> Joint Status Report, it is ORDERED that the parties shall submit another joint status report on or before July 31, 2019. Signed by Judge Dabney L. Friedrich on May 31, 2019. (lcldf3) (Entered: 05/31/2019)
05/31/2019		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 7/31/2019. (kh) (Entered: 05/31/2019)
07/31/2019	<u>31</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Coyle, Garrett) (Entered: 07/31/2019)
08/01/2019		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' <u>31</u> Joint Status Report, it is ORDERED that the parties shall file another joint status report on or before September 30, 2019. Signed by Judge Dabney L. Friedrich on August 1, 2019. (lcldf3) (Entered: 08/01/2019)
08/01/2019		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 9/30/2019. (zcal) (Entered: 08/02/2019)
09/30/2019	<u>32</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Kevin P. Hancock on behalf of U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE (Hancock, Kevin) (Entered: 09/30/2019)

09/30/2019	<u>33</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Hancock, Kevin) (Entered: 09/30/2019)
10/10/2019		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' <u>33</u> Joint Status Report, it is ORDERED that the parties shall file another joint status report on or before November 27, 2019. So Ordered by Judge Dabney L. Friedrich on October 10, 2019. (lcdlf3) (Entered: 10/10/2019)
11/26/2019	<u>34</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Hancock, Kevin) (Entered: 11/26/2019)